

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR INDIANA'S BASIC CIP GRANT						
Issue Addressed	Activity	Responsibility	Date	Interim Benchmark	Outcome	Indicator
Collaboration Between The Courts And The DCS With Regard To The CFSR						
	Participation in the Statewide Assessment	CIP Grants Administrator recruit trial court judge	Late 2006 through July, 2007	CIP Grants Administrator and several judges participated on Steering Committee and sub-committees and assisted in drafting section on case planning and reviews Attending all planning and final meeting Grant Administrator participating in all CSFR conference calls Agency Director and Chief Justice meeting frequently throughout the process	That the CFSR, particularly the PIP will be a process by which the SYSTEM assesses and addressed needed reform in Indiana The Statewide Assessment will include the perspective of the Judges who are in a good position to provide insight into the data and the practical implications of the data indicating need for improvement.	Courts and DCS will collaborate to conduct an accurate and thorough evaluation of the statewide system Courts and DCS will come to understand their respective roles and responsibilities in the child welfare system Courts and DCS will collaborate in a meaningful way Improvement as a goal The collaboration will continue through the implementation of the PIP.
	Meet with judges whose counties are involved in the onsite reviews	CIP Grants Administrator and Deputy from agency	May and June, 2007	Meetings with individual judges in Marion, Montgomery and Jefferson Counties		Judges whose counties are Review sites are better prepared and understand the process better: Reviews run smoothly

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	Participation in the onsite review	CIP Grants Administrator to recruit 4 trial court judges to serve as reviewers in the CFSR. CIP Grants Administrator to serve as a reviewer State Director of GAL/CASA (Indiana Division of State Court Administration) to serve reviewer.	July 9-13, 2007	4 judges, GAL/CASA Director and CIP Grants Administrator serve as reviewers		4 judges will have a better understanding of the agency, will be helpful in engaging their colleagues in the PIP process. Judges, as knowledgeable stakeholders bring a significant perspective to the process. GAL/CASA perspective will also be present. CIP Grants Administrator will be prepared to assist in implementation of PIP

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Collaboration Between The Courts And The DCS With Regard To The CSFR						
	Participation in the PIP development	CIP Grants Administrator to recruit judges to participate. State Director of GAL/CASA to participate and recruit CASA staff	After the results are received in 2007 and ongoing until PIP is approved	Trial court judges agree to participate and are included by DCS	A good product: Indiana will have a PIP that is approved by ACF and that is workable, feasible, relevant and attainable	Mutual understanding of respective roles in improving the system PIP including input from both courts as well as the DCS. If courts are involved, those issues involving the courts are appropriately addressed. Courts are aware of the statewide needs and what their role is in implementing the PIP
	Inform all trial court judges of the results of the CSFR, particularly the PIP when it is completed	CIP Grants Administrator DCS Director Payne	June 2007 (to the extent information is available) at the annual Juv. Judges Mtg. Monthly updates to Juvenile Justice Improvement Committee June, 2008 Annual Juv. Judges Mtg. Meeting with the regions services councils beginning in October 2007 until all regions have had meetings.[1]	CIP Grants administrator makes presentation at 2007 and 2008 annual juvenile court judges meetings and continues to meet with JJIC on a monthly basis		Judges are aware of the PIP and have the opportunity to play an active role in developing strategies for implementing changes that have a better chance of successful outcomes

[1] The DCS has 18 regional services councils that meet on a regular basis. The councils included judges from the regions as well as DCS staff. These meetings are a good opportunity to share CSFR results as well as to develop a collaboration approach to the PIP.

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	Implementation of PIP	CIP Grants Administrator to facilitate ongoing collaboration with the DCS as needs are identified and the PIP is formulated	(see above)	Once the PIP has been accepted by ACF, DCS, Task Force and CIP Grants Administrator will continue to discuss the courts' roles in implementation.	Successful statewide implementation	Judges are informed of the PIP requirements and are involved in the implementation of the PIP in those areas that include or impact the court process
	Identify any changes in legislature that might be suggested as a result of the CFSR	CIP Grants Administrator, DCS staff, Task Force, Juv. Justice Improvement Committee[2]	(see above)	If needed, DCS and Courts collaborate on necessary statutory changes		Barriers to best practices that may be attributed to statutory requirements are removed
	Identify any changes in court rules or court practices that might be suggested as a result of the CFSR	CIP Grants Administrator, DCS staff, Task Force	(see above)	If needed, Indiana Supreme Court will address changes		Changes or amendments through rules or judicial education regarding best practices are implemented
	Educate judiciary on changes in DCS policy or practice as a result of CFSR	CIP Grants Administrator Indiana Judicial Center Staff	(see above)	Collaborative training between DCS and CIP[3]		Better understanding between courts and the DCS

[2] Director Payne meets regularly with the Juvenile Justice Improvement Committee during the legislative session to discuss pending legislation and legislative initiatives concerning families and children. This will continue.

[3] Collaborative Regional training is addressed in the Training Grant Strategic Plan

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Continued Collaboration On The IV-Review						
	Participation by the courts in the next IV-E Review	CIP Grants Administrator to collaborate with the DCS to get courts involved	Last review was Oct., 2005. Indiana was in substantial compliance. Next review within 3 years.	Court participation in IV-E review	A more thorough and informed review that includes the participation and perspective of the bench.	Courts actively and in a meaningful way participate in the reviews and the PIP, if any.
Court Improvement Efforts At The State Level						
<i>Length of time to establish Adoption as permanency goal</i>	Determine statewide how many adoptions pending 6, 12, and 18 plus months after entry of judgment on TPR	CIP Data Analyst	Sept/Oct. 2007	Confirm our anecdotal assumption that children are awaiting adoption for too long[4]	Timely Permanency for children free for adoption	Reliable data provides accurate information regarding the length of time from TPR to adoption for children for whom adoption is the permanency plan
	Explore efforts to expedite appeals in other jurisdictions	Executive Director, Division of State Court Administration	March, 2007 and ongoing	Research completed		Research provides information as to how other jurisdictions handle TPR appeals
	Collect Data re: Number of appeals from TPR judgments from each county Length of time from filing of Notice of Appeal through decision handed down Length of time from end of briefing until decision is handed down	Data Analyst	July, 2007	Research completed		We have reliable data regarding the cause of delays, if any, in the appellate process in finalization of adoption
	Discussions with the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals re: the data collected the need, if any, to expedite appeals of TPR's	Executive Director, Div. Of State Court Administration CIP Data Analyst	Sept-Oct, 2007	Meeting takes place.		Exploration of how to reduce delays in for children for whom the appellate process may be a delay in permanency

[4] ICWIS indicates that we have 2,000 plus children who are free for adoption

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Court Improvement Efforts At The State Level						
<i>Length of time to establish Adoption as permanency goal</i>	Ongoing discussions of needed changes, if any, to the appellate procedure depending on the review of the data	Indiana Supreme Court	2008		Timely Permanency for children free for adoption	
	Share data regarding statewide numbers of children awaiting adoption and the length of time between TPR and adoption	CIP Grants Administrator	Jan./Feb2008	Each county has data regarding length of time from judgment of TPR to adoption.	Reduction in time from TPR to adoption	Courts will recognize delays in permanency for children awaiting adoption based on reliable data
	Seek 3 counties as Pilot Project volunteers to conduct monthly file reviews on cases in which there is a TPR, adoption as a permanency plan and no adoption finalized	CIP Grants Administrator	Feb/Mar2008	3 counties in which the length of time from judgment of TPR to adoption is over 6 months agree to participate in pilot		Recognition of need to reduce delays in the pilot counties
	Develop a protocol/form for Review Team to identify cases and establish a regular and routine review of cases	CIP Grants Administrator, Judges in pilot counties	April, 2008	Forms for file review are developed		Process for file review is developed
	Establish a protocol for how to identify and address or respond to the reasons for delay	CIP Grants Administrator, Judges and DCS directors in pilot counties	May/June, 2008	Protocol is developed and adopted in pilot projects		Process for file review and action plan is in place
	Establish teams in pilot counties to review files and respond to identified reasons for delay: teams to include court staff, DCS staff and for initial review, CIP Administrator	CIP Grants Administrator, Judges and DCS directors in pilot counties	July, 2008	Teams are established and trained on forms and protocol		Teams are in place and ready to begin reviews

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<i>Length of time to establish Adoption as permanency goal</i>	Implement the project	Judges and DCS directors in pilot counties	August, 2008 through August 2009	Teams are meeting on a scheduled basis and reviewing files		File Reviews are identifying barriers and reducing time
	Evaluate the success of the pilot projects by comparing the number of adoptions not completed within 6, 12, and 18 months of adoption before the project vs. after the project	CIP Grants Administrator, Judges and DCS directors in pilot counties	September, 2009	Evaluations completed		Time from TPR to adoption is reduced in pilot counties
	If the pilot projects are successful in reducing delay, identify 3 more counties to agree to pilot the project	CIP Grants Administrator	Oct-09	Additional counties are added		Time from TPR to adoption is reduced in additional counties
	Replicate the project statewide	CIP Grants Administrator	2009-2012			Statewide reductions in time from TPR to adoption
Court Improvement Efforts At The State Level						
<i>Plan for initiatives in response to needs identified in CFSR[5]</i>	Collaborative Planning with the DCS	CIP Grants Administrator DCS Staff	Jan-June2008	Regular meetings with DCS to collaboratively determine how CIP funds can be allocated to best improve outcomes of safety and permanency for children in foster care in Indiana	Funding through CIP basic grant for initiatives relevant to meeting the goals of the CFSR PIP	A strategic plan for years 2008-2012

[5] Indiana's CFSR is scheduled for July, 2007. We anticipate that as a result of the review and the PIP, we will have a better understanding of what the state specific needs are and will be able to better plan for the expenditure of CIP funds in the coming years of the grant.

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Court Improvement Efforts At The State Level						
<i>Forum for ongoing meaningful collaboration between DCS, Courts and other Stakeholders [6]</i>	Create a multi-Disciplinary Task Force	Chief Justice CIP Grants Administrator Director of DCS	Feb/Mar2007		Collaboration between the courts and child welfare stakeholders	Opportunity for meaningful and ongoing collaboration between stakeholders Input from all stakeholders regarding CIP projects
	Select members of task force and name a chair	Chief Justice Director of DCS	Feb/Mar2007	Members are selected in collaboration between courts and the agency		Representative membership
	Invite members to participate	CIP Grants Administrator	Mar-07	Task Force is formed		Prospective members accept the invitation to serve on the Task Force
	Convene the Task Force	CIP Grants Administrator Task Force Chair	Apr-07	Meets for the an orientation		First meeting is held

[6] This part of the plan includes some activity that has already occurred. However, the formation of the Task Force is still in the early stages and is included in the 2007 plan to indicate the progress of the process so far as well as the plans for the future of the group.

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Court Improvement Efforts At The State Level						
<i>Forum for ongoing meaningful collaboration between DCS, Courts and other Stakeholders [6]</i>	Define Missions and Goals for the Task Force	Task Force	Apr-07	The Task force defines itself		Mission and Objectives are established
	Establish regular meeting dates and times	Task Force Chair	April/May2007	Commitment to ongoing participation		Task Force continues to meet
	Plan and set goals	Task Force	May/June 2007	Task Force collaborates and provide input for CIP Grant strategic plans	Task Force will have established a plan for the direction it intends to take	CIP Strategic Plans are established.
	Review the CFSR report and suggestions for PIP	Task Force members	Sept/Oct2007	All members of the task force review the CFSR Report and come to a meeting prepared to suggestions for the PIP		Task Force has contributions to make to the PIP development through the CIP Grants Administrator
	Review PIP	Task Force Member	When the PIP has been prepared	All members of the task force review the PIP and come to a meeting prepared to suggestions for the PIP		Task Force has contributions to make to the PIP implementation through the CIP Grants Administrator
	Monitor implementation of PIP	Task Force Members	When the PIP has been approved and ongoing	CIP Grants Administrator Task Force Members		PIP is implemented Improvement in outcomes
	Continue to meet on a monthly basis through the PIP process and determine how often to meet thereafter	Task Force members	2008-2012	Task Force continues to evaluate needs and discusses programs and or initiatives to address those needs		Task Force makes contributions to the adjustment and finalization of future strategic plans

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	Continue to assist in planning for CIP		2008-2012			see above

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Needs of Local Courts For Additional Services, Programs & Projects To Ensure Good Outcomes						
	Continue to provide CIP funding for existing sub-grants and to encourage other counties to replicate existing successful projects [7]	CIP Executive Committee Trial court judges	Ongoing 2007-2012	CIP Exec. Committee receives sub-grant proposals to replicate programs that have been successful	Better outcomes for children and families in the areas of safety, well-being and permanency	Implementation of programs that have demonstrated success statewide
	Address emerging local needs identified at a result of the CFSR, our Data Collection, the Indiana Summit for Children and the Task Force.	CIP Executive Committee Trial court judges CIP Grants Administrator	Ongoing 2007-2012	CIP exec. Committee receives sub-grant proposals for identified needs		New initiatives that are responsive to needs identified in the CFSR and the PIP are implemented
	Evaluate the success of the sub-grant initiatives	CIP Executive Committee Trial court judges CIP Grants Administrator	Ongoing 2007-2012	Sub-grantees submit evaluations in their final reports		Sub-grantees have good information about the positive impact of their grants.
Assessment of the courts' role in the effectiveness of the interstate placement of children						
	Meet with the Deputy Contract Administrator, ICPC office	CIP Grants Administrator	Jan. 2008	Meeting takes place. CIP Grants Administrator understand the DCS policy and how courts can be involved in improvement	Improvement in the effectiveness of the interstate placement of children	CIP Grants Administrator has a better understanding of the efforts to improve the process made by the DCS
	Conduct Survey of local practices	CIP Grants Administrator	Feb./March 2008	Survey is developed, distributed and returned		CIP Grants Administrator and Indiana Supreme Court will have information about local practice with regard to the interstate placement of children.

[7] Indiana CIP has funded such initiatives as facilitation/mediation in CHINS and TPR, Drug Courts in CHINS, Mental Health Courts, Family Court pilots, Technical Support and assistance with case management through the Supreme Court's JTAC

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Assessment of the courts' role in the effectiveness of the interstate placement of children						
	Conduct File Reviews, depending upon survey responses	CIP Grants Administrator	April/May 08	Files in select counties are reviewed, judges interviewed regarding local practice involving the interstate placement of children		See above
	Draft a report of the assessment of the trial courts' role, responsibilities and effectiveness in the interstate placement of children.	CIP Grants Administrator	Jun-08	Report completed		Need for any changes in practice are identified
	Form an ad hoc committee of the Task Force to evaluation what improvements are needed and how to implement necessary changes in practice, if any.	CIP Grants Administrator, Ad Hoc Committee	August, 2008 through August 2009	Committee is formed, reviews the report and makes suggestions for change to be included in strategic plan		Needed changes identified and planning for those changes takes place
Collection of Data for Purposes of Evaluating Court Performance						
	Indiana CIP has also applied for a Data Collection and Analysis Grant. The Strategic Plan that was submitted with that grant application and that is attached hereto sets for the plan for data collection and measurement of court performance.	CIP Data Analyst	2007-2011	See Data Collection and Analysis Grant strategic plan[8]	Measurable Improvements in practice are identified Transfer of training into practice is documented	CIP has reliable data that indicates change

[8] Indiana's strategic plans for the Data Collection and Analysis as well as the Training Grants are included in the application packet for the Basic Grant.

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A significant piece of what Indiana plans to accomplish with basic grant funding is to be evaluated under the Data Grant and much of the training required to implement programming is to be accomplished under the Training Grant.

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